New Technologies in Fibre Optics

1261. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations that the technology finalised by Hindustan Cables Limited for import from Denmark for indigenous manufacture of Fibre Optics Cables produces cables at a very expensive cost; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to ensure that HCL renegotiates import of latest art technology which has been now developed in the U.K. as the most cost-effective technology in the world and since offered to India at a lower cost?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) had invited global tenders for import of technolgy for manufacture of fibre optic cables. STC, UK, which had sent quotations against the above tender subsequently made representations claiming to have developed a cost effective technology, compared to that offered by the company in Denmark. The status of the technology offered by STC, UK has been got evaluated by a Government Expert, whose findings are that only one specification to meet the UK market requirement has been commercialised by STC. It does not meet the requirement of the Indian market. This technology is, therefor, not acceptable to HCL. As regards the cost effectiveness claim of the UK firm, it has been reported that it cannot be verified because no reliable figures are available internationally to compare the cost of one process with that of another process.

The technology chosen by Hindustan Cables Ltd. is the state-of-art technology and is commercially exploited process in use all over the world.

Production targets of Bharat Brakes and Valves Limited

1262. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any production targets for the years 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 have been planned by Bharat Brakes and Valves Limited a subsidiary of Burn Standard and Company;

(b) if so, whether the targets for 1986-87 and 1987-88 have been fulfilled and the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry is aware of the fact that target fixed by production committee of BBVL for the years 1987-88 for GOBRA Works could not be achieved due to non-availability of raw materials; if so, the reasons for non-supply of raw materials; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken to ensure uninterrupted supply of raw materials to the BBVL to achieve its production targets; and the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir; Details of production targets and achievement for the year 1986-87 and 1987-88 are as under:

(*Rs. Lakhs*)

Year	Production	
	Target	Actual
1986-87 . .	918	526
1987-88 . .	832	406

(c) Acute shortage of working capital due to continued losses over the years, resulting in shortage of raw material and other inputs was one of the reasons for not achieving the targetted production for 1987-88.

Other reasons are low productivity, vendors' failure to supply components and other material and workers' strike on the issue of interim relief from 14-12-1987 to 29-1-1988.

(d) Assistance by way of non-plan loan is being given to the company to enable it to supply production material to achieve its production targets for the year 1988-89.

Non-settlement of wages since October, 1981 of Class III and IV workers of B.B.V.L. Calcutta

1263. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pay revision for the Officers of M/s. Bharat Brakes and Valves Limited, Calcutta was effected in 1981 and 1986 with retrospective effect from 1982 and interim relief was also granted to them;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been no wage settlement for Class III and Class IV workers of Bharat Brakes and Valves Limited, Calcutta since 26th October, 1981;

(c) if so, the reasons for the non-settlement of wages as far as Class III and IV workers are concerned;

(d) whether the Management had received a Charter of Demands dated the 17th December, 1983 from the Bharat Brakes and Valves Mazdoor Union; and

(e) if so, whether any action has been taken to settle the Charter of demands, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Class III & Class IV workers of Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd. Calcutta, (BBVL) are governed by the Tripartite Engineering Wage Settlement in West Bengal. After the expiry of the Memorandum of Settlement dated 26-10-1981, the company has implemented the Award of 3rd and 4th Industry-wise Engineering Wage Settlements dated 2-9-1983 and 20-1-1988 respectively for public sector engineering industries in West Bengal. The Charter of Demand dated 17-12-1983 submitted by the union could not be accepted as it was beyond the Industry-wise Engineering Wage Settlement applicable in their case.

गैस स्टोव/बर्नर्स गैस एजेंसियों से ही खरीदने के लिये उपभोक्ताओं को मजबूर करने वाली एल०पी० जी० एजेंसियां

1264. **श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक :** क्या **पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि घरेलू गैस के वितरक मैसर्स मब्बरवाल गैस सर्विस गीता कालोनी, दिल्ली-51 और मैसर्स जी० एस. एन्टरप्राइसेज, शालीमार पार्क, दिल्ली-32 नए गैस कनैक्शन जारी करते समय उपभोक्ताओं को उनसे गैस बर्नर्स तथा गैस स्टोव खरीदने के लिए मजबूर कर रहे हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन एजेंसियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही किये जाने का विचार है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री रफीक आलम) : (क) इस संबंध में संदर्भित वितरकों के विरुद्ध कोई ऐसी शिकायतें प्राप्त नहीं हुई हैं ।

(ख) उपर्युक्त (क) को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।